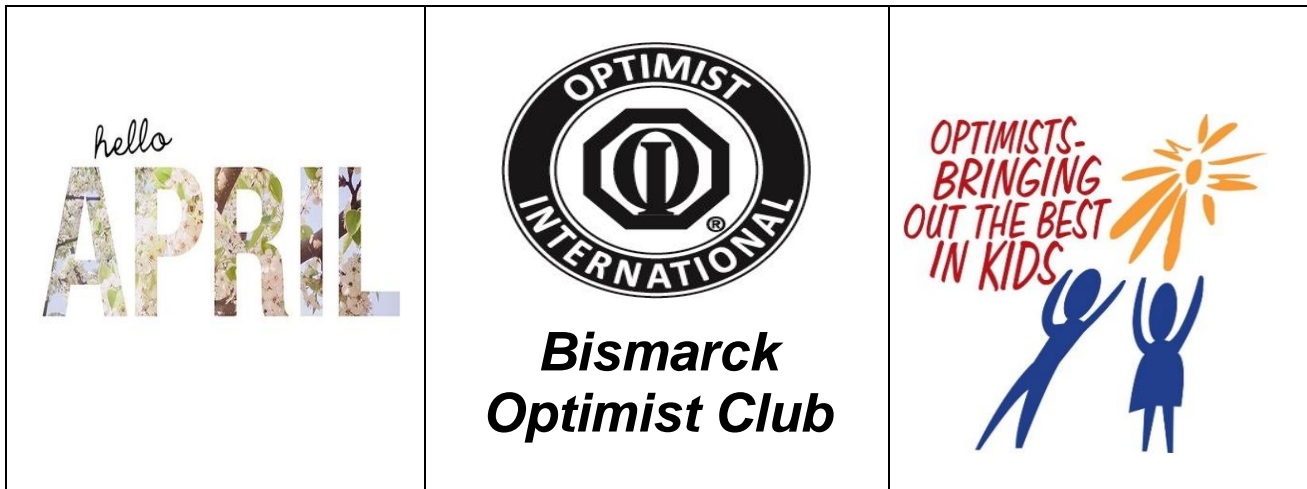


The Optimist Outlook – April 2024



A Look Ahead to...

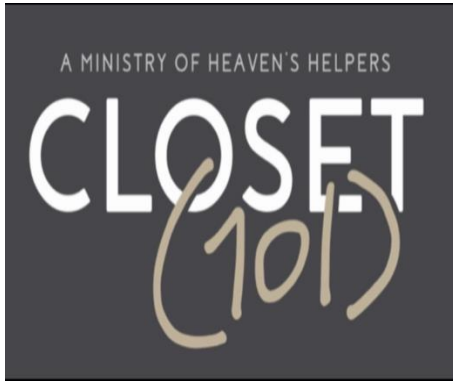
April Programs, Brooks Grotte, Chair:

- April 1st** - Fill Caring for Kids Backpacks
- April 2nd** – Optimist Essay Contest Winner – Kerstin Hilzendeger
- April 4th** – Board of Directors Meeting
- April 7th** – Egg Hunt at Capitol Grounds
- April 9th** – Brave the Shave – Executive Director LaShae Graf
- April 16th** – Northern Plains Cru – Kody Keysor
- April 23rd** – Club Social Night - details coming soon!
- April 30th** – Rebuilding Together – Tosha Steinwand

Recap of March Programs, Tami Emter, Chair:

- March 4th** – Filled 35 Caring for Kids backpacks
- March 5th** – Panel - The 3 J's (Jerry, Julie and Jillian) with Kyle as MC
- March 7th** – Board of Directors meeting
- March 12th** – Medora Foundation (Kaelee)
- March 19th** – Sleepy Hollow Theatre (Susan)
- March 26th** - Dreams in Motion (Linda & Carol)

May is Optimists in Action Month!



On Tuesday, May 28, Bismarck Optimist Club is putting their optimism to work and hosting their weekly noon meeting at Closet (701) located at 2306 East Broadway Avenue in Bismarck. For this meeting, attendees are hanging, sizing and organizing clothing and other apparel items for Closet (701) store.

Bismarck Optimist Club members are welcome to donate items to Closet (701)'s store. Because we are limited by time that day, we are bringing only five laundry baskets of items to Closet (701). Julie Jeske will bring the baskets to our noon meetings on May 7 and 14.

Acceptable items include shirts, shorts, pants, jeans, shoes, purses, belts, socks, purses, backpacks, jewelry, carry on suitcases, towels, sheets, blankets and bedspreads, new personal hygiene items and brand-new underwear. All men's, women's and children's apparel items must be new or gently used, clean, neatly folded, in great shape and ready to wear (no holes, discolorations/stains, missing buttons, etc.). Closet (701) is also accepting kitchen items that are in good shape/working order (ex: pots, pans, utensils, drinkware, stoneware, pizza makers, toasters, etc.). A complete list of items can be found at <https://www.heavenshelperscloset701.org/monetary-donations>

An RSVP Sign Up will be sent May 1 so please indicate if you plan on attending. Lunch is provided. Please park in the back alley behind Closet (701).

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Jeske at jjeske@bravera.bank.

Committee Feature

Optimist Park

From Roger Anderson, longtime Committee Chair: "The Optimist Park continues to be a well used, well attended park throughout the summer months. The Bismarck Park District does an excellent job of not only maintaining the park but also providing an assortment of up-to-date playground equipment. They are to be commended for all they do and have done to make the park what it is today. It has been my privilege to have served as the chairman of the park committee these past years and I thank all those who have volunteered their time to help whenever there was a need. Kent Belland has agreed to serve as committee chairman."

The Bismarck Optimists will once again use the Optimist Park on Flag Day to host an annual picnic, conduct a flag raising ceremony, and salute the patriots that have served to protect our country, rights, & freedoms.

The Committee's purpose is to help organize and coordinate service projects. Stay tuned for further information as Spring and Summer arrive.

Committee Chair: Kent Belland

Membership Anniversaries:

Jerry Haas – 13 years

Dave Leftwich – 41 years

Upcoming Program Chairs:

May: Julie Jeske
June: Rob Koppinger
July: Brent Helm
August: Does this month work for **YOU?****
September: Last chance for this fiscal year!**

As program chair, you schedule the speaker and give a brief introduction at the weekly Club meeting. If you aren't able to attend every meeting during your month, someone else in attendance can introduce the speaker for you. For more information or to sign up, please contact Board members Brooks Grotte, Laurie Hatzenbuhler or Kristin Oban.**

Donation Requests

Our Optimist Club gets lots of donation requests! Among the criteria used to determine which will be eligible for funding is the organization must have presented at a weekly Club meeting. Each quarter, our Finance Committee will be compiling a list of speakers from the last quarter and providing you the opportunity to vote on which organization gets our \$250 donation. Keep watching Brooks' weekly emails to see when the voting will be held, as it will need to be in person at the meeting.

If you happened to attend our March 19th Club meeting, you may have been able to take part in choosing CPABLE, a non-profit that provides financial aid for children with cerebral palsy, to receive the 1st quarter donation.

**Upcoming program chairs, please note – a list of possible future speakers is compiled from donation requests received.



The Energize your Optimism campaign is rolling right along! Don't forget that if you recruit a new member to join our Optimist Club, you will get a \$25 VISA gift card. If you bring a guest to an Optimist Club meeting, you will get your name in a monthly drawing for a white elephant type of prize. The next drawing will take place on April 2, and the only thing we can disclose is that it starts with the letter "P."



As you know, we are going through each letter of OPTIMIST CLUB during this membership drive, and the month of April is brought to you by the letter "T." Who better to be the unofficial spokesman for the month of April than Mr. "T". Did you know that Mr. T. once served as the president of his local Optimist Club before joining the "A" Team?? Ok, well...maybe not, but at least we got your attention right? After all, Mr. T. always said "I pity the fool who is not an Optimist!" In order to NOT get on the bad side of Mr. T., please reach out to someone who know and invite them to join you for an Optimist meeting!



12,000 Eggs – stuffed and ready to go at the Optimist Easter Egg Hunt!

The 7th annual Optimist Easter Egg Hunt was postponed based on the weather forecast from March 24th to **Sunday, April 7th**. This fun filled community event sponsored by our Bismarck Optimist Club is free and open to all kids age 9 & under. The Egg Hunt flyer with all the details shows above.

Along with 12,000 Easter Eggs, there will also be opportunities for kids to win one of 46 prizes, which includes 3 grand prizes, 1 for each age group:

- 3 & under - a brand new trike!
- 4-6 year olds - an awesome scooter bike!
- 7-9 year olds - lawn games that are guaranteed to be a blast!

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities helping out at the Egg Hunt. We need help with perimeter patrol, registration, setting up for the event, scattering eggs between the hunts and much more! **Please consider signing up for the event, as there is no way we could do this with YOU, our awesome Optimist volunteers!** All of your support in making this event happen for the kids in our community is very much appreciated! <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/71073332038/false#/invitation>

See you at the Capitol Grounds on April 7th!

Jerry Haas & Amanda Yellow

Easter Egg Hunt Committee Co-chairs

2023-24 Board of Directors:

President: Brooks Grotte, email: b.grotte@bankwithchoice.com

Vice-President: Julie Jeske, email: jjeske@bravera.bank

Secretary: Sylvia Burgess, email: sylvia.burgess@bis.midco.net

Treasurer: Tami Emter, email: tamie@S-Hcpa.com

Past President: Kyle Debertin, email: kyle.debertin@thrivent.com

Director: Jillian Lagasse (2 years remaining) email: jillian.lagasse@hotmail.com

Director: Laurie Hatzenbuhler (2 years remaining) email: laurieh@bis.midco.net

Director: Kristin Oban, (2 years remaining) email: koban@c21morrison.com

Director: Rob Koppinger (1 year remaining), email: robk@kirkwoodbank.com

Director: Maddie Berger (1 year remaining), email: mberger@bravera.bank

Director: Jerry Haas (1 year remaining) email: jerry_r_haas@yahoo.com

Optimist Resources:

Email: bis.optimist@gmail.com

Website: www.bismarckoptimist.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/optimistclubofbismarck

Twitter Handle: @optimistbis; <https://twitter.com/OptimistBis>

DMM: www.optimist-dmm.org

Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself...

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear & too happy to permit the presence of trouble